

Case 2958

***Corisa propinqua* Fieber, 1860 (currently *Glaenocorisa propinqua*; Insecta, Heteroptera): proposed conservation of the specific name**

A. Jansson

Zoological Museum, P.O. Box 17, FIN-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland (e-mail: antti.jansson@helsinki.fi)

Abstract. The purpose of this application is to conserve the specific name of the water-boatman *Glaenocorisa propinqua* (Fieber, 1860). Fieber (1848) established the name *Corisa dohrnii* for what was probably (at least in part) the same taxon, but this name has been treated as a synonym of various names and has not been used as valid for more than 50 years; its suppression is proposed.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Heteroptera; CORIXIDAE; water-boatmen; *Corisa dohrnii*; *Glaenocorisa propinqua*.

1. Fieber (1848, p. 530) established the name *Corisa dohrnii* for an unspecified number of corixids, all females, collected from Germany and 'Dalmatia' (now Croatia); the description was not accompanied by any illustrations and the name was probably based on more than one taxon. In 1851, in a preprint bearing that date of a paper published in 1852, Fieber (pp. 37–38) emended the original description, and also gave a drawing of the female pala (pl. 2, fig. 25). This drawing shows that the specimen of *Corisa dohrnii* illustrated was conspecific with a taxon later described by Fieber himself (1860, p. 99) as *Corisa propinqua*, the only European corixid having fewer than 15 lower palmar bristles, there being 13 in the 1851 illustration. Pl. 10, fig. 19 of Fieber (1848) and pl. 2, fig. 24 of Fieber (1851) show that Fieber misidentified *Corisa carinata* Sahlberg, 1819; both these drawings are of specimens conspecific with *C. propinqua*. Fieber's type material of both *C. dohrnii* and *C. propinqua* is lost.

2. The specific name of *Corisa dohrnii* has been little used as a valid name this century and not at all for more than 50 years. In contrast, the name *Glaenocorisa propinqua* has been extensively used in recent literature (e.g. Jaczewski & Lansbury, 1961; Coulianos & Ossianniilsson, 1976; Jastrey, 1981; a further 17 references by 18 authors over the last 40 years are held by the Commission Secretariat). Quite apart from its limited use, there has always been considerable confusion about the identity of the taxon (or taxa) originally described as *Corisa dohrnii*. Puton (1899) listed *C. dohrni* [sic] as a possible synonym of *C. carinata*, *C. germari* Fieber, 1838 or *C. cavifrons* Thomson, 1869, and this was repeated by others.

3. When revising the Corixidae of Europe (Jansson, 1986, p. 26), I pointed out that 'because of the lack of type material it is not possible to establish the synonymy [between *Corisa dohrnii* and *Glaenocorisa propinqua propinqua*] with certainty'. Nevertheless, in view of the confusion about the identity of *C. dohrnii*, and the fact that it is almost certainly a senior subjective synonym of *G. propinqua propinqua* (see

Jaczewski & Lansbury, 1961, p. 348; Jansson, 1986, p. 26), I propose that the specific name of *C. dohrnii* be suppressed. I (Jansson, 1986, p. 26) designated as neotype of *Corisa propinqua* a male specimen in the Prague Museum, labelled 'lezero Plöckensteinské. Dr Stolc'.

4. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the specific name *dohrnii* Fieber, 1848, as published in the binomen *Corisa dohrnii*, for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *propinqua* Fieber, 1860, as published in the binomen *Corisa propinqua* and as interpreted by the neotype designated by Jansson (1986);
- (3) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the name *dohrnii* Fieber, 1848, as published in the binomen *Corisa dohrnii* and as suppressed in (1) above.

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